

Message Text

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70-60

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-07

DODE-00 OMB-01 AID-20 TRSE-00 RSR-01 NSC-10 PRS-01

/069 W

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R 100040Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5170

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USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

REF: A. USIA 12895; B. TOKYO 7938

1. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS PERFECTLY AGENCY'S DESIRE FOR OPTION C IN REFTEL A. ISSUE MUST HOWEVER BE EXAMINED IN LIGHT OF OVERALL MISSION POLICIES. IN PAST YEAR, COUNTRY TEAM HAS BEEN MAKING SPECIAL EFFORT TO SEE THAT VARIOUS MISSION ELEMENTS ARE OPERATING IN JAPAN FULLY WITHIN LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF JAPAN. IN THIS CONNECTION, EMBASSY RECENTLY HAS REQUIRED THAT AID OFFICES AND FACILITIES WHICH NOT COVERED BY STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENT BE REMOVED FROM U.S. MILITARY BASE IN OKINAWA.

DURING LAST YEAR'S PROBLEM OVER SHIPMENT U.S. TANKS ON JAPANESE ROADS, QUESTION OF JAPANESE REGULATIONS AGAIN CAME UP, AND ASSURANCES HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY GIVEN THAT U.S. FORCES WILL OPERATE WITHIN THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF JAPAN. AT PRESENT TIME, EMBASSY MAKING SPECIAL EFFORTS TO SEE THAT ALL OTHER USG ACTIVITIES HERE FOLLOW SUIT AND DO NOT BECOME SUBJECT

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OF ADDITIONAL EMBARRASSMENT TO BOTH GOVERNMENTS.

2. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE EFFORTS, COUNTRY TEAM IS UNABLE
RECOMMEND OPTION C WITHOUT FLYING IN FACE OF OWN
RECENT EFFORTS AND ESTABLISHED POLICY.

IN ANY CASE, SINCE CONTINUED NON-PAYMENT WOULD ALMOST
CERTAINLY SURFACE IN PUBLIC, OPTION C NOT VIABLE
FOR LONG. USG WOULD THUS BE ONLY POSTPONING INEVITABLE
NEW EMBARRASSMENT OVER RELATIVELY SMALL FINANCIAL
EXPENDITURE -- AND IN VAIN, SINCE AS REFTEL B INDICATES,
PAYMENT REQUEST CAN BE EXPECTED FROM GOJ ONCE NON-
PAYMENT IS DISCLOSED.

3. ACCORDINGLY COUNTRY TEAM REGRETFULLY CONCLUDES THAT
ONLY CHOICE IS OPTION D -- TO PAY ALL DUTIES IN STRICT
ACCORD WITH ORS'S LACK OF PRIVILEGED STATUS IN JAPAN,
AND AGENCY'S CONCURRENCE IS REQUESTED.
DECONTROL 12/31/77.
CARTER

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